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18 May 1954

MEMORANDUM OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN TRIPARTITE DISCUSSIONS  
OF TRADE CONTROLS FOR ELECTRONIC ITEMS

1. Tripartite talks on electronics and precision instruments resulted in agreement to support in COMCOM retention of 37 items on International List I in unchanged or modified form and deletion of 13 whole and 3 partial items. Agreement could not be reached on 10 items. Included were commercial marine radar, the radio transmitter complex, and certain electronic tubes.

2. On items of special interest to DCI:

a. Agreement was reached to support retention on List I, unchanged or with non-substantive changes, as follows:

- 1514 - Pulse modulators
- 1519(b) - Telegraph equipment transmitting more than 200 words per minute
- 1525(a) - Co-axial type cable used at frequencies of 3000mc/s

b. Agreement was reached to support retention on List I of the following items in redefined form:

- 1525(b) - Co-axial type cable; of all types with polytetrafluoroethylene dielectric
- 1532 - Radio frequency signal generators
- 1548 - Photo-electric cells, cut off - 12,000 angstrom units
- 1573 - Impedance measuring equipment

c. Unresolved are the following items:

- 1509 - Location apparatus
- 1512 - Radar equipment
- 1517-2517 - Radio transmitting apparatus
- 1519(a) - Telephone and telegraph equipment: carrier frequency telephone terminal, intermediate repeater or amplifier equipment suitable for military field application
- 1558 - Electronic tubes (special types)
- 1577 - Meteorological sounding balloons

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3. Comments on some of the unresolved items follow:

a. It was agreed to redefine as one category items 1512 and 1509, as indicated below; although the nature of control on these items is still not completely agreed.

Apparatus of a kind used for detecting objects or for determining the relative direction, position, or motion of objects by means of the constant velocity or rectilinear propagation characteristics of electromagnetic waves having less than  $4 \times 10^{11}$  cos (.75 microns); but excluding radio direction finding equipment of a kind used at frequencies not greater than 3 megacycles.

Thus it was agreed to embargo electronic navigational aids, radio direction finders operating above three megacycles. However, the US and the French position remained to embargo all radars.

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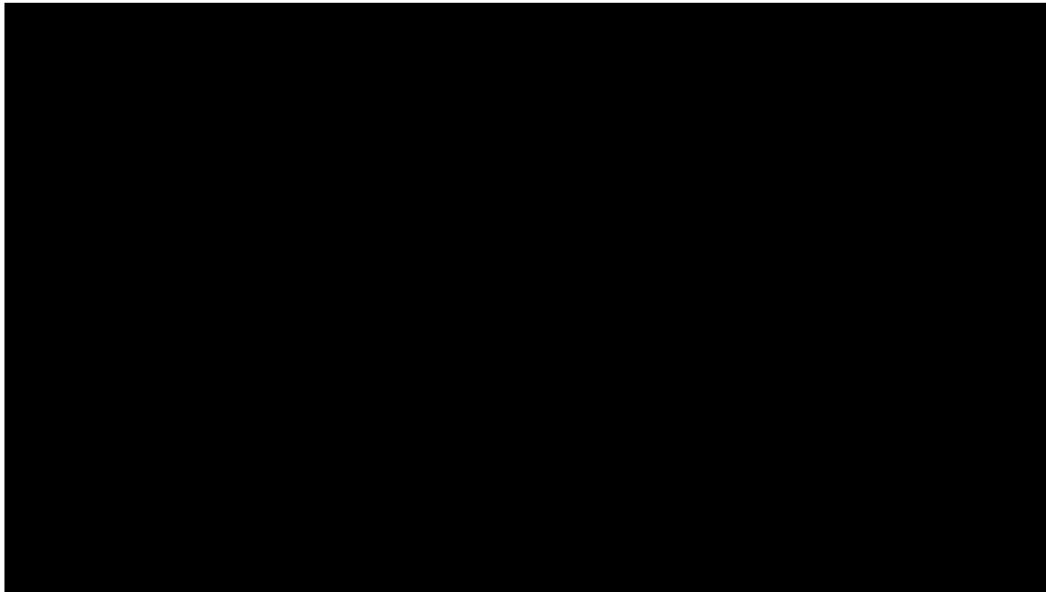
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b. Items 1517 and 2517: The US proposal for redefinition, in addition to raising frequency cutoff up to 21 mc/s, had a specific statement that AM, FM and TV transmitters are included. The French rejected this proposal on the same grounds as the UK (i.e., that this includes civilian items). USNEL countered by noting the importance of many items covered in this category, in which Western technology leads the Bloc by a decade, and that the military is taking the largest share of all electronic production, particularly above 20 mc/s. It was pointed out that in this range of frequencies now utilized by the Bloc military, crowding is so great that it is limiting the effectiveness of existing equipment. To supply the Bloc with equipment for operation on higher frequencies would alleviate problems on lower frequencies, and at the same time make it harder for the West to monitor and jam Bloc communications. The USNEL also stressed electronic magnetic warfare in general terms. Recognizing FM and TV activity in the Bloc in the frequency range below 100 and above 20 mc/s, the USNEL nevertheless stressed the general deficiency in the Bloc as the reason for not offering any assistance to the Bloc military in overcoming its band crowding.

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A small area of additional possible agreement seemed apparent in the UK and French reaction to US suggestions on: equipment of all power ratings at 250 mc/s and over; equipment capable of operation at 100 mc/s and over except standard AM, FM and TV transmitters; and equipment of low power operating in range between 20 and 100 mc/s. The area of disagreement continues to be standard broadcast type AM, FM and TV transmitters.

The USDEL ended the trilateral sessions with a strong re-statement of the US views on the transmitter complex.

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The USDEL has taken a reservation on the frequency cutoff of 250 mc/s. The US desires an analysis of the US civilian and military shock tests for rugged tubes and a technical evaluation as well on the theory that direct heated tubes are used primarily in hearing aids and have few military applications.

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4. In regard to International List II, it was agreed to support the downgrading of item 2511, Crystal Diodes, to List III (Watch List). Disposition of item 2517 is still unresolved (see 3b above).

5. Mr. McConnell, of Army Signal Corps, one of the members of the US technical team, is returning today. He would be able to provide further details on these negotiations (Code 131, extension 65585).

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